



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION IX

75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

OFFICE OF THE  
REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

The Honorable Salud Carbajal  
U.S. House of Representatives  
212 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Carbajal:

Thank you for your letter dated May 30, 2017. We understand and share your concerns regarding air quality impacts from Union Pacific Railroad train engines idling near the City of San Luis Obispo residential neighborhoods.

As we discussed with Greg Haas of your staff on June 19, we have spoken with the San Luis Obispo Air Pollution Control District (APCD) and Union Pacific Railroad. During the course of those conversations, Union Pacific Railroad has expedited its response to the APCD and City of San Luis Obispo regarding an alternative power source to minimize engine idling. Timely implementation of the alternative power for charging locomotive brakes will address the concerns about air quality and noise raised by local residents.

We will contact the APCD and Union Pacific Railroad in one month regarding progress on their proposed partnership to resolve these concerns. We look forward to working with your office and will keep your staff informed as this innovative agreement is finalized.

If we can be of further assistance, please call me at (415) 972-3572 or refer staff to our Congressional Liaison, Brent Maier, at (415) 947-4256.

Sincerely yours,

 20 June 2017  
Alexis Strauss  
Acting Regional Administrator